

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE  
Transcriber's Office  
FLOOR DEBATE

February 26, 2004 LB 835, 836

The question is on the advancement of LB 835 to E & R Initial. All those in favor please vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: 30 ayes, 1 nay on the advancement of the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: The bill advances. (Visitors introduced.) Next item, Mr. Clerk.

ASSISTANT CLERK: Mr. President, LB 836 was introduced by Senators Kremer and Wehrbein. (Read title.) The bill was read for the first time on January 7, referred to the Committee on Agriculture. That committee reports the bill to General File with no committee amendments.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Mr. Clerk. Chair recognizes Senator Kremer.

SENATOR KREMER: Thank you, Mr. Lieutenant Governor and members of the Legislature. LB 836 was brought with the endorsement of the Dairy Industry Development Board. The bill revises the makeup of the board in order to enable a better geographical representation, and representation of the diversity of the Nebraska dairy industry not achievable under the current statute. The Dairy Industry Development Act was passed in 1992 and it was...it was enacted because of the anticipation of the termination of the national dairy promotion checkoff. The federal checkoff was rescinded by rule by the Secretary of Agriculture in 1989, and that ended the checkoff, which then activated the bill at that time. The assessment was collected by the first purchasers of raw milk at the time of sale and delivery, and remitted to the board. The Nebraska Dairy Industry Development Board, many times referred to as the dairy board, first began collecting assessments in January of 1999. The board currently contracts with the American Dairy Association and the Dairy Council of Nebraska, Incorporated, for promotional uses of the funds collected, and with the Department of Agriculture to administer...for the administrative support. The current board makeup, and that's basically what the bill is, is change the current board makeup, the original size of the